

Response action means all activities undertaken to address the problems created by hazardous substances at a National Priorities List site.

Start of response action means the point in time when there is a guarantee or set-aside of funding either by EPA, other Federal agencies, States, or PRPs in order to begin response activities at a site.

Waiver means excusing recipients from following certain anticipated regulatory or administrative requirements if; the authority to issue a waiver is provided in the regulation itself; and the Agency believes sufficient justification exists to approve such action. The Award Official has the authority to issue a waiver. Deviation means an exemption from certain provisions of existing regulations, which may be necessary in some unforeseen instances. The Director, Grants Administration Division, is authorized under 40 CFR 30.1001(b) to approve deviations from the requirements of regulations (except for those that implement statutory or executive order requirements) when such situations warrant special consideration.

§ 35.4013 Cost principles.

(a) Recipients and non-profit contractors must comply with the cost principles in OMB Circular A-122.

(b) Profit-making contractors and subcontractors must comply with the cost principles in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR part 31).

§ 35.4015 State administration of the program.

(a) Effective October 1, 1992, the Agency will accept applications for and award TAGs in consultation with the States.

(b) The TAG Program will be available at an NPL site where a State response action is scheduled to begin or is underway and a CERCLA-funded cooperative or other written agreement exists between the Agency and the State.

(c) States wishing to administer the TAG Program must inform the appropriate EPA Regional administrator. If a State elects to administer the program, it must do so in conformity with this subpart. Where States administer

the program, EPA will have an oversight role.

(d) A State that chooses to administer the TAG Program will receive technical assistance funds plus administrative costs from the Agency under a cooperative agreement. A State will receive \$10,000 for administrative costs for the first TAG. For each subsequent TAG, the State will receive an amount equal to eight (8) percent of the TAG. Using the criteria established under this subpart, the State may select a qualified recipient and provide assistance in either of two ways:

(1) A State will pass through technical assistance funds to a recipient group by way of a subgrant, and reimburse the recipient group for its expenditures as provided at § 35.4080. A State that elects this option is also responsible for monitoring the subgrant to ensure that recipients comply with its terms and with 40 CFR parts 30 and 33; or

(2) If a recipient group agrees, a State will use TAG funds to obtain the services of a Technical Advisor and provide those services to a grant recipient in lieu of cash. The recipient group may work closely with the State in advertising, reviewing bids and recommending a Technical Advisor, and managing the Technical Advisor. The State will make the final selection of the technical advisor. A State that elects this option becomes directly responsible for awarding the technical assistance contracts, submitting financial and progress reports, and for disbursing all TAG funds in compliance with applicable EPA regulations and requirements.

§ 35.4020 Responsibility requirements.

(a) An applicant must meet the minimum administrative and management capability requirements 40 CFR 30.301. Thus each applicant must demonstrate that it has established reliable procedures or has plans for establishing reliable procedures for record-keeping and financial accountability related to the management of the TAG. These procedures must be in effect before the recipient incurs any costs. If EPA concludes that the applicant is not capable of meeting the responsibility requirements, the application will be rejected.